

1901 Empire Drive
Waukesha, WI 53186

January 27, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Now that a settlement has been reached in the Microsoft case, I would like to confirm my support behind the terms negotiated and allowing this action to be completed. As a technology consultant, I am fully aware that Microsoft has overstepped its bounds in some respects in the past, yet this lawsuit has gone beyond what any reasonable person would consider worth the price in government time and money. A deal is a deal and it's time to put this issue to rest. There is ample competition to Microsoft and many "disruptive technologies" emerging that will change the balance of market dominance.

Microsoft is a great success story that is being punished, rather than lauded, for its achievements in the software industry. To suggest a break up would be an injustice to entrepreneurs everywhere who want to create the best products and services possible for their customers. This compromise offers significant concessions to how Microsoft can freely do business and should be considered a credible good faith gesture to allowing more competition.

Considering the greater freedoms for computer makers to configure Windows without question and developers to utilize Windows technology for their own interests, this deal should pass the approval process at once. This is the fairest solution possible among these parties, and also the most practical one, considering the need for stability in this dicey economic climate. Please halt any further action.

Sincerely,



Phil Mattson